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*Prionotus strigatus*. November 4, 1913 (Coney Island). One young.

*Rissola marginata*. October 30, 1913 (Coney Island).

*Merluccius bilinearis*. December 18, 1913 (Coney Island).

*Pollachius virens*. A young specimen about six inches long, City Island, July 15, 1915, brought to the Museum by Messrs. C. & O. Falkenbach.

*Urophycis regius*. December 18, 1913 (Coney Island).

*Lophopsetta maculata*. December 18, 1913 (Coney Island).

W. H. WIEGMANN,  
J. T. NICHOLS,  
New York City.

## AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN A BLUE RACER SNAKE, *BASCANION FLAG- ELLIFORMIS* AND A "GOPHER."

A gopher of a species unidentified was running through the grass near my garden gate, and a Blue racer snake was loosely coiled up in the road, apparently on the watch, but not seeing me. As soon as the gopher became aware of the presence of the snake it darted forward, and commenced circling about the snake and from time to time running in and nipping at the body of the snake, and jumping back. The snake turned its head about constantly, watching the gopher, and twice it made ineffectual strikes at the running animal, with its open mouth. After some minutes of this kind of thing the gopher ran for its burrow and the snake thrust out its tongue and started towards the house, and being headed off, climbed up a small juniper tree, from which it was dislodged, and allowed to escape, which it did with incredible speed. I witnessed no evidence whatever of the power which it is popularly believed snakes

have of charming their prey, as all the wiles of this snake had no effect upon the gopher.

HERMAN HAUPT, JR.,  
South Haven, Michigan.

### THE MINK FROG, *RANA SEPTENTRIONALIS* BAIRD, IN ONTARIO.

Mr. P. H. Pope's note on the distribution of the mink frog in Maine,\* recalls some of my experiences with this species while stationed at Prof. C. V. P. Young's boys' camp on Otter Lake, Dorset, Ontario, in the summer of 1913.

On July 7, in a peaty lake with clear sphagnumaceous border we found several *Rana septentrionalis*. From July 7-14, we heard at night along the shore of Otter Lake the peculiar note which later proved the croak of the mink frog. On the 15th of July at 10 P. M. we heard several frogs and started with flashlight for the Peat Lake where the species was in chorus. The air temperature ranged from 52° to 55° F., but the water of Otter Lake at its surface registered 69° F.

On July 16th and 17th, we examined the place closely. All along the north edge of the lake were white water lilies, yellow spatterdocks and water shields. These three made a perfect carpet on the water's surface. On these plants during the day the mink frogs rested. Whenever the sun went under a cloud or it became overcast they would croak. The water was about two feet deep. By pushing our canoe through the water plants toward the frogs, one person could place a landing net in front of the quarry while the other with the paddle could gently cause the frog to leap into the net. In this way we caught 15 specimens. Often the frogs would jump along on the lily pads, sometimes for considerable distance; seldom, if ever, did they give a cry like frightened young bullfrogs. Another favorite position was resting be-

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